

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1, 3-8 and 10-20 are now present in the application. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Claims 2 and 9 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 8 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Unno, U.S. Patent No. 6,076,063. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In light of the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been obviated and/or rendered moot. As the Examiner will note, independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of elements including "converting a digital music file in a first format into a digital music file in a second format with MPEG 1 Audio Layer 3 (the third layer) reaching a compression rate of 12:1 for both mono or stereo signals", "a first data transmission interface, which is connected to a built-in digital compact disc music player or reader of the music conversion device via a data transmission wire, the digital music player is selectively loaded with a recording medium with the digital music file in the first format" and "a format converting module, which is connected to the first data transmission interface for receiving the digital music file in the first format, and analyzing, decoding, and converting it into the digital music file in the second format so that the file in the second format occupies less storage space than the one in the first format."

Independent claim 8 has been amended to recite a combination of elements including “converting a digital music file in a first format into a digital music file in a second format with MPEG 1 Audio Layer 3 reaching a compression rate of 12:1 for both mono or stereo signals” and “a format converting module, which is connected to the digital music player via a first data transmission interface for receiving a digital music file in the first format, and analyzing, decoding, and converting it into the digital music file in the second format so that the file in the second format occupies less storage space than the one in the first format.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the above combinations of elements as set forth in amended independent claims 1 and 8 are not disclosed nor suggested by the reference relied on by the Examiner.

Unno discloses that an audio recorder obtains a PCM audio signal from input analog or digital audio data, encodes the PCM audio signal, and stores the encoded signal in a semiconductor memory, and that the semiconductor memory may be internal to the audio recorder, or may be an external memory device (see Abstract.) However, Unno fails to teach “converting a digital music file in a first format into a digital music file in a second format with MPEG 1 Audio Layer 3 reaching a compression rate of 12:1 for both mono or stereo signals” and “a first data transmission interface, which is connected to a built-in digital compact disc music player or reader of the music conversion device via a data transmission wire” and “a format converting module” as recited in amended claim 1 and “converting a digital music file in a first format into a digital music file in a second format with MPEG 1 Audio Layer 3 reaching a compression rate of 12:1 for both mono or stereo signals” and “a format converting module, which is connected to the digital music player via a first data transmission interface for receiving

a digital music file in the first format, and analyzing, decoding, and converting it into the digital music file in the second format so that the file in the second format occupies less storage space than the one in the first format” as recited in amended claim 8.

Since Unno fails to teach each and every limitation of amended independent claims 1 and 8, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 8 and their dependent claims clearly define over the teachings of Unno. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but merely to show the state of the prior art, no further comments are necessary with respect thereto.

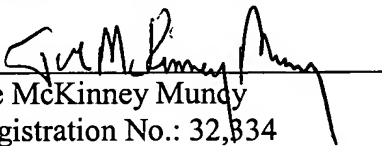
It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Joe McKinney Muncy, Registration No. 32,334 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 5, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Joe McKinney Mundy
Registration No.: 32,834
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant